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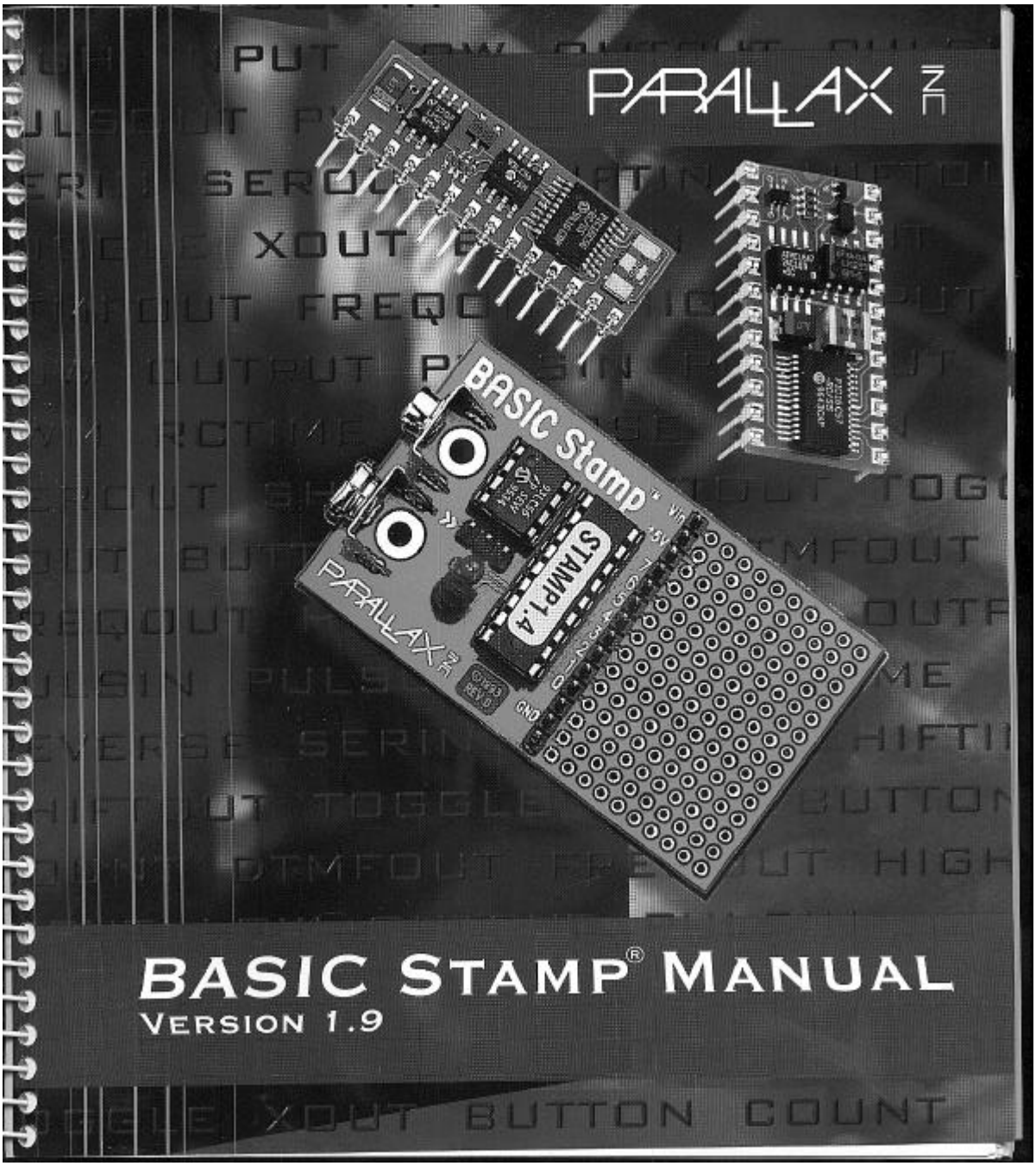

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Introduction

Thank you for purchasing a BASIC Stamp product. We've been making BASIC Stamp computers for years, and most customers find them useful and fun. Of couse, we hope your experience with BASIC Stamps will be useful and fun, as well. If you have any questions or need technical assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Parallax or the distributor from which you purchased your BASIC Stamps.

This manuals divided into two sections. The first section deals with the BASIC Stamp I, and the second section deals with the BASIC Stamp II. The BASIC Stamp I has been around for some time, and therefore has more data in the way of application notes. If you have prior experience with BASIC Stamp I, you should consult Appendix C, for details on converting to the Basic Stamp II.

PBASIC Language: the BASIC Stamps are programmed in a simple version of the BASIC language, called *PBASIC*. We developed PBASIC to be easy to understand, yet well-suited for the many control and monitoring applications that BASIC Stamps are used in. The PBASIC language includes familiar instructions, such as GOTO, FOR…NEXT, and IF…THEN, as well as specialized instructions, such as SERIN, PVM, BUTTON, COUNT, and DTMFOUT.

Hardware: the BASIC Stamps discussed in this manual are the "BS1-IC" and "BS2-IC." Both represent the latest versions of the BASIC Stamp 1 and BASIC Stamp II. Both include a small circuit board with a PBASIC interpreter chip, EEPROM, 5-volt regulator, reset curcuit, and resonator. These five components form a complete computer in a very small space. The modular design of the BS1-IC and BS2-IC makes them perfect for use in breadboards and printed circuit boards.

Each of the BASIC Stamp modules has a corresponding "carrier board." The carrier boards provide 9-volt battery clips, connectors for programming, and a small prototyping area. Although they are optional, we recommend that you purchase at least one carrier board as a means of easily programming your BASIC Stamps.